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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1050)

Name of Candidate	Jayant Nahata		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	247939
Center	Online	Date	6/08/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
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16	15	
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका म खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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103, 1st Floor, B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Citizens' Charters make administration both accountable and citizen-friendly. However, over time, in a large number of offices, Citizens' Charters have fallen into disuse. Suggest measures that can make these charters effective tools for bringing accountability in public service. (150 WORDS) 10

नागरिक घोषणापत्र (सिटीजन चार्टर) प्रशासन को जवाबदेह और नागरिक-अनुकूल दोनों बनाते हैं। हालाँकि, समय के साथ, ज्यादातर कार्यालयों में नागरिक घोषणापत्र अप्रचलित हो गए हैं। कुछ ऐसे उपाय सुझाइए जो इन घोषणापत्रों को, लोक सेवाओं में जवाबदेही लाने का प्रभावी उपकरण बना सकते हैं। (150 शब्द)

Citizen Chartors first introduced by John Major government (UK) seeks to boost transparency & accountability via outlining the vision & mission of organization, its services standardizes & setting up grievance redressal systems.

The citizen chartors suffer because of many factors like non-consultative framing, lack of business process engineering, non-unique chartors, no involvement of public etc.

Measures to make chartors effective:

① Have a consultative approach ~~with~~ while framing → involve department officials, cutting edge functionaries etc.

② Have a unique chartor & not a copied one → "One size fits all" is a poor approach

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(3) Give statutory backing.

(4) Periodic revision. Only 6% of charters are revised according to 2nd ARC.

(5) Keep citizen centricity in mind. Delineate responsibilities of citizen.

(6) Set up grievance redressal mechanisms.

(7) Benchmark charters with citizen feedback.

(8) Penalize officers for not meeting set standards.

(9) Awareness generation in public.

Following these steps as recommended by 2nd ARC will help to make these charters effective.

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2. Discuss the importance of involving civil society in pre-legislative scrutiny and mention the steps that can be taken by the government to increase public engagement in it. (150 WORDS) 10

पूर्व-विधायी जांच में नागरिक समाज को सम्मिलित करने के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए और इसमें जन भागीदारी बढ़ाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए जा सकने वाले कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Civil Society forms an integral part of improving the governance framework in the country.

Pre-Legislative scrutiny of bills, ordinances, amendments etc. is vital for effective legislation →

1. Wider consultation can bring in new suggestions & radical ideas.
2. Can identify loopholes in the bills.
3. Varied view points are essential in a democratic set up.
4. Can boost public trust on legislative action & increase cooperation in implementation.
5. Public participation via civil society has educative value & makes citizens responsible.

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Steps to boost public engagement

① More civil society invitees to parliamentary standing committees like Parliamentary Accounts Committee, etc.

② Putting the draft bills online for feedback for wider range of time.

③ Incentivising participation via monetary compensation.

④ Tying up with organisations like PRS Legislative Research, Vidhi Legal Group etc.

⑤ Sending bills to think tanks like ORF, IDSA etc. ~~before~~ for feedback.

~~All~~ Public engagement is essential to democracy as it leads to effective legislation & better implementation of sound laws.

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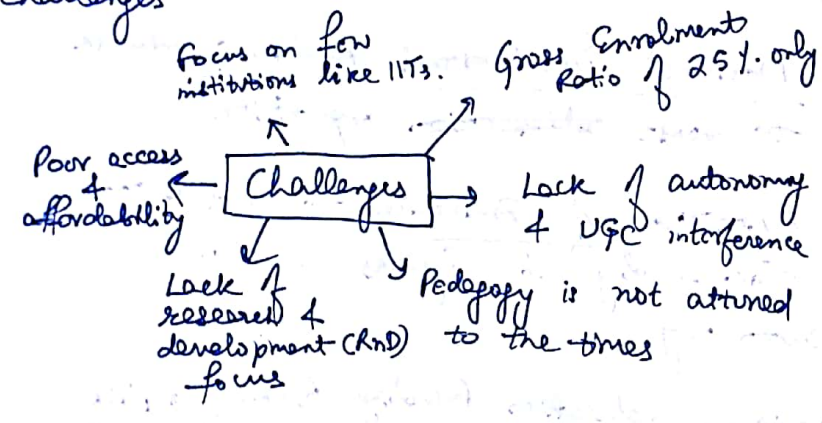
3. Poor standards of tertiary education are a drag on India's competitiveness. Elucidate. Also enumerate the initiatives taken by the government in the past few years to improve the quality of higher education in India. (150 WORDS)

10

तृतीयक शिक्षा के निम्न-श्रेणी के मानक भारत की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता में अवरोधक हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही भारत में उच्च शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने के लिए पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान सरकार द्वारा की गई पहलों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

The tertiary education suffers from numerous challenges



The poor standards are affecting India's Competitiveness →

① Lack of indigenous research & therefore technology → Imports of defense items, ~~still shows~~ pharmaceuticals shows poor standards

② Rote based learning hampers labour productivity.

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(3) No skills focus & vocational training.

(4) Less than 10% of engineers are employable.

(5) No institution in top 100 global rankings.

Government Initiatives

(1) National Institutional Ranking framework to boost ~~collaboration~~ competition

(2) Institutes of Eminence to get $1000 crore funding in 5 years & full autonomy.

(3) Higher education Funding Agency (HEFA) to boost funding to institutes for infrastructure upgradation.

(4) RISE → Revitalising Infrastructure & Systems in Education.

(5) Overhaul of UGC and creating HECI (Higher Education Commission of India).

All this will boost our higher education & help to reap demographic dividend.

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4. Social audit has a crucial role in effective implementation of social sector programmes. Comment. Also discuss its strengths and limitations. (150 WORDS) 10

सामाजिक क्षेत्र के कार्यक्रमों के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में सामाजिक लेखा परीक्षण की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके मजबूत पक्षों और सीमाओं पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Social audit refers to scrutiny of processes & performance of government programs by local people.

Role

1. ~~Identification of~~ Beneficiaries can be cross-checked & outcomes verified.
2. Performance appraisal by those affected is the most efficient.
3. Can check corruption & nexus between officials & service provider.
4. Empowerment & voice to local people is enhanced.
5. Identify loopholes for revision & better implementation

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Given the host of social sector programs like NREGA, PDS etc, effective implementation is key to take people out of poverty & improve standards of living. In this respect, Social audit involving local stakeholders will boost transparency, accountability, efficiency & effectiveness of programs.

However some limitations exist:

1. Poor literacy in rural areas hampers role of people in audits.
2. No statutory backing. We need laws like Meghalaya's Social Audit law.
3. Caste & class barriers hinders participation
4. Fake audit meetings
5. Collusion of gram panchayat with officials.
6. Participation will cause economic wage loss for the day.

Thus, reforms are key to push social audits across all programs.

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5. What are the major welfare schemes for elderly in India? Do you think the benefits of such schemes are reaching a wide section of the target segment? Give reasons. (150 WORDS) 10

भारत में वृद्धजनों के लिए प्रमुख कल्याणकारी योजनाएँ कौन-सी हैं? क्या आप मानते हैं कि इस प्रकार की योजनाओं का लाभ लक्षित हिस्से के एक वृहत् भाग तक पहुँच रहा है? कारण बताइए। (150 शब्द)

Elderly constitute around 10% of the population & are set to be 20% by 2050 according to UN. They form a vulnerable section of the society since they suffer from diseases, isolation, dis-empowerment, digital illiteracy, no income security etc. In this respect, welfare schemes are →

① National Pension Scheme & Employees Provident Fund (EPF) contributions.

② PM Vaya Vandana Yojana for assured 8% interest on deposits

③ National Trust for disabled people helps elderlies.

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(3) Income Tax ~~limit~~ is lowered & exemptions are granted further in Budget 2018.

The benefits of welfare schemes are not reaching a wide-section. Its only those who have sufficient awareness of programs, affluent sections & urban population. So there's a divide in beneficiaries.

The reasons are →

(1) Lack of awareness via government.
(2) Insufficient deposits in banks.
(3) Lack of support in enrolling to schemes.
(4) Financial illiteracy.
(5) Digital divide.
(6) Poor funding of schemes & focus on old age group.

Given the expected rise in old population & their increased vulnerability, ~~Government~~ there's a need to step up efforts.

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6. Welfare policies in India have undergone a paradigm shift in recent decades, yet they retain certain elements of continuity. Discuss with examples. (150 WORDS) 10

हाल के दशकों में भारत में कल्याणकारी नीतियों में मूलभूत बदलाव (पैराडाइम शिफ्ट) आए हैं, फिर भी उनमें निरंतरता के कुछ तत्व बने हुए हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

The post independence period saw focus on growth oriented welfare based on trickle down theory. This was evident in 2nd financial Year Plan with focus on industrialisation (Mahalanobis Strategy).

It was also evident in Green Revolution focussing on few states hoping to benefit others via trickle down.

This got shifted with ~~wage~~ directed welfare strategies of wage employment & self-employment. Eg. Food for Work programs, Swarozgar yojana etc.

In recent times, the focus has shifted towards basic minimum needs strategy

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as evident in ~~At~~ Public Distribution System (PDS), Right to Education (RTE) ~~etc~~, Subsidy in inputs etc.

Thus there's a paradym shift. Also, rights based approach rather than beneficiary based approach has been adopted. as seen in NREGA's right to work, National food Security Act's Right to food, Right to Education.

However, elements of continuity are present, as seen in →

① Ad-hoc identification via Below Poverty Line & Above Poverty line.

② Non-Universal approach (Targeted instead)

③ Beneficiary-led

④ Some mechanism of using bureaucracy to implement.

Thus, there's shift as well as continuity.

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7. Discuss whether changes recommended by the Law Commission in its 268th report can help in addressing the problems of undertrials languishing in jails in India. What other measures can be taken in this regard? (150 WORDS) 10

चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या अपनी 268वें रिपोर्ट में विधि आयोग द्वारा अनुशंसित परिवर्तन, भारत में कारागारों में सजा काट रहे विचाराधीन कैदियों की समस्याओं को दूर करने में सहायता कर सकते है। इस सन्दर्भ में अपनाए जा सकने वाले अन्य उपाय कौन-से हैं? (150 शब्द)

The Law Commission's 268th report recommends →

① Mapping of all undertrials & national level database

② Freeing of undertrials in case they have been in jail for equal time as that when they would have been convicted.

③ Easier bail provisions for minor crimes.

etc.

All these steps will help ~~boost~~ better the criminal justice system →

① Uphold principle of 'Innocent' till convicted.

② Principles of natural justice will be upheld.

③ focus on reformative justice.

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(4) Help innocent people get out of jails. Given that greater than 60% of all prisoners are undertrials, there's need for such reforms.

Other measures

(1) NHRC should investigate & recommend safeguards - Also, represent their cases in court.

(2) Evidence based policing to identify convicts easily.

(3) Easier bail provisions & reduction of bond surety will help poor people.

(4) Fix accountability in police for falsely implicating innocent.

(5) Speed up justice system via fast track courts, fill vacancies etc.

All these will benefit the cause of undertrials.

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8. While various government initiatives and policies have created opportunities in the affordable housing segment, there are challenges that still persist. Discuss. (150 WORDS) 10

यद्यपि विभिन्न सरकारी पहलों और नीतियों ने वहनीय आवास के क्षेत्र में अवसरों का सृजन किया हैं, लेकिन कुछ ऐसी चुनौतियाँ हैं जो अभी भी बनी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

The government has envisioned a 'Housing for All' mission by 2022.

Various initiatives are →

① PM Awas Yojana with components such as credit linked subsidy for easier loans. Use of GIS tools to map houses. Use of SECC data.

② RERA (Real Estate Agency) to increase transparency in housing segment.

etc.

The challenges still exist →

① Identification of beneficiaries & leakages of government funds

② Lack of private sector investment as pointed by Economic Survey 2017-18.

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(3) ~~Lack~~ Slow pace of construction beset by land acquisition problems & environmental regulations.

(4) Poor awareness of government schemes.

(5) Lack of rental housing at affordable rates for migrants

Way forward

- Increased private sector role, better identification via Aadhaar, easing land acquisition etc will help achieve the goal of Housing for All.

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9. Demographic dividend may become demographic liability in the absence of adequate skill development. In this context, discuss the importance of National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015. (150 WORDS) 10

समुचित कौशल विकास के अभाव में जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश, जनसांख्यिकीय दायित्व बन सकता है। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रीय कौशल विकास एवं उद्यमिता नीति, 2015 के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Demographic dividend implies the benefits of a young working age population.

India has 65% of population below 35 years.

However, in absence of skills, education & health, this might turn into liability.

The National Policy for Skill Development 2015 aims at →

1) National Skill Accreditation framework with 'prior learning' as a mechanism to gain certification

2) Creation of sector skill councils via National Skill Development Corporation.

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3) Role of private sector in setting up these councils for effective skill development.

4) Apprenticeship programs.

5) Strengthening of ITI's in all states with greater funding & support.

The importance lies in effective skill training in sectors that have demand for employees. Role of private players will help manage skill creation better.

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10. Highlight the need for whistleblower protection in India. Critically analyze whether the Whistleblower Protection Act provides sufficient protection to the whistleblowers. (150 WORDS) 10

भारत में व्हिसलब्लोअर सुरक्षा की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालिए। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए कि क्या व्हिसलब्लोअर सुरक्षा कानून व्हिसलब्लोअर को पर्याप्त सुरक्षा उपलब्ध कराता है। (150 शब्द)

Whistleblower refers to those persons who expose the corruption or illegal transactions in a specific sector of private or government structure.

⇒ In last few years, over 70 whistleblowers / RTI activists were killed.

The Need for whistleblower protection

(1) Exposing corruption leads to savings on public funds

(2) Work culture of the organisation improves.

(3) The guilty are punished

(4) The organisational weaknesses are exposed & suitable remedies can be planned & executed.

Given all these benefits, whistleblowers need to be protected from threats, coercions

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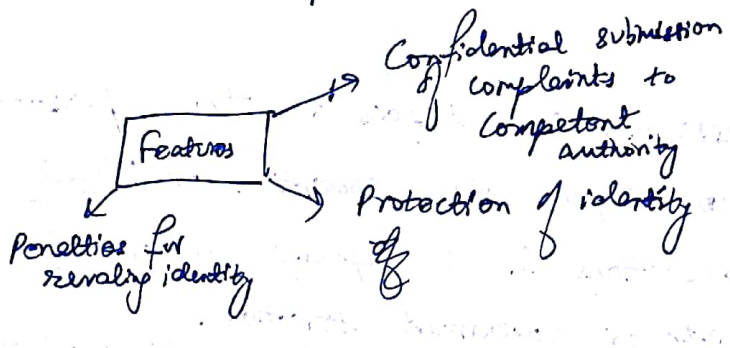
to retract statements.

The whistleblower protection act provides



However lacunaes exist especially with recent amendments being mulled →

1. It bans revealing of information under Official Secrets Act.
2. To ban 10 types of information to bring in line with RTI!
3. Identity of people is often exposed.
4. Decisions of Competent Authority is recommendatory.
5. Protection to people is poor & not pro-active as seen in 70 deaths!

Thus suitable amendments should take place to strengthen the whistleblower protection!

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11. What are the factors which have been responsible for slow pace of growth of coverage under the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) Enumerate the recent steps taken by the government in order to increase this pace to achieve universal coverage swiftly. (250 WORDS) 15

सार्वभौमिक प्रतिरक्षण कार्यक्रम (UIP) के अंतर्गत कवरेज में वृद्धि की धीमी दर के लिए कौन-से कारक उत्तरदायी रहे हैं? सार्वभौमिक कवरेज को शीघ्रातिशीघ्र प्राप्त करने की इस गति में वृद्धि करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए हालिया कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

The Universal Immunisation Program aims at full coverage of children from 0-6 years under immunisation.

- It covers many diseases like pneumococcal diseases, meningitis, ~~polio~~ tetanus etc.

The factors responsible for slow pace of growth are →

1) The funding of the program is woefully short.
2) Involvement of the States is less than enthusiastic
3) There's little role of private sector.
4) The lack of coordination between ~~st~~ officials in Ministry of Health as well as Centre - State coordination.

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5) The strategy & aims are ill-defined & not ambitious enough.

6) Involvement of Community.

7) Incentivisation of people to get immunized.

8) Lack of awareness among people of the free vaccines.

9) Regional divide with U.P, Bihar, Orissa etc. under the Empowered Action Group States lagging behind Southern States.

10) Corruption & Leniency by staff/officials.

The government has taken many steps →

① Shifted the goal posts earlier → NRIS 90% immunisation target by 2018

② Focused approach on backward districts.

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(3) Increase in funding.

(4) Indradhanush Mission for wider coverage of vaccines

(5) Involvement of schools in the program.

Thus, there's a need to further the momentum on immunization. We have already tasted success in eradicating polio. Following the mission of Indradhanush we can significantly improve health outcomes & reap demographic dividend.

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12. Highlight the ways in which digital divide perpetuates and manifests itself in India. Discuss the importance of steps taken by the government to bridge this divide. (250 WORDS) 15

उन तरीकों पर प्रकाश डालिए जिनके चलते भारत में डिजिटल अंतराल निरंतर बना हुआ है तथा स्पष्टत: दृष्टीगोचर होता है। इस अंतराल को पाटने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

The digital divide refers to the inequitable access to digital resources & unequal capacities of the people to harness benefits of it.

How it perpetuates

① Only 27% people are digitally literate in India according to International Telecommunication Union (ITU) study.

② Poverty leads to unaffordability of digital resources like mobiles, computers, internet access.

③ Poor access in rural areas as well as regional divide with North-East etc. still far away from fibre penetration.

④ Illiteracy in India is still high with only 77% literacy rate.

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(5) There's a urban-rural & rich-poor divide.

How it manifests

(1) Inequality of access to digital resources leads to income inequality as commerce shifts & goes ONLINE!

(2) Small & Medium Enterprises are getting out of business because of lack of digital use.

(3) Cybersecurity is a huge challenge in India since there's lack of awareness, poor security infrastructure & regulation.

(4) Phishing, e-mail spoofing, credit card hacks all happen ~~to~~ to digitally illiterate population more.

(5) It breeds social tension via viral videos of communal hatred being spread by unknowing citizens.

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The government has taken many steps →

① Digital India → To improve access to digital resources, fibre optic cables, as well as digital literacy.

② Common Services Centre being established across India to be one stop centre for all online services.

③ Bharat net Mission for connecting 2.5 lakh gram panchayats with fibre optic cables.

④ Tele-Education, Telelaw services.

⑤ ISRO Satellites for communication.

⑥ Skill India for improving capacity of population.

Thus, there's huge role being played by government. There's need for enhanced focus & partnerships with private sector to increase pace to bridge digital divide.

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13. What are the objectives of National Health Mission? Why, in your opinion, non-communicable diseases have acquired salience in recent times? What are its implications for health policy in the country? (250 WORDS) **15**

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन के उद्देश्य क्या हैं? आपकी राय में, गैर-संचारी रोगों ने हाल के दिनों में क्यों ध्यान आकृष्ट किया है? देश में स्वास्थ्य नीति के लिए इसके निहितार्थ क्या हैं? (250 शब्द)

The National Health Mission aims to provide universal access to quality healthcare at affordable costs & thereby reducing the prevalence of diseases & effective treatment.

The Objectives :

1. A coordination based mission mode approach to healthcare.
2. Effective surveillance → Integrated Disease Surveillance Program.
3. ~~Child~~ Maternal & Child healthcare → Integrated Child Development scheme.
4. Tackling NCD (Non-Communicable Diseases) & CD's.
5. Holistic approach covering primary, secondary & tritiary healthcare.
6. Universal Immunization Program.

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The Non-Communicable Disease (NCD's) have surpassed Communicable diseases (CD's) as reported in India State of Health report by Medical Council.

Reasons

① As a country develops, its a natural phenomena that communicable diseases will be controlled → improved access to water, sanitation etc. & health facilities, CD's are easier to control

② With rising incomes, NCD's are lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, heart problems, cholestrol, cancer.
~~These~~ Thus, NCD's have acquired salience due to worsening lifestyle patterns of people especially in urban areas.

③ Increase in air pollution contributes to lung & heart problems (NCD's)

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(5) The old people are more at risk to NCD's → Their population is increasing.

Implications

(1) Treatment of NCD's is more expensive thus Out of Pocket Expenditures will rise.

(2) Government has to control NCD's via increased public investment in secondary & tertiary care.

(3) Partnership with private players has to be done as a stop-gap arrangement as envisioned by Niti Aayog's plan to lease district hospitals.

(4) NCD treatment takes more time thus number of beds has to be increased across hospitals.

(5) Lifestyle patterns have to be focused upon → Thus focus on preventive & promotional health.

Hence, to achieve the objectives of NHM, focus on NCD's has to be prioritised in the coming years.

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14. Over the years, there has been a growing realisation that undue interference from the State, lack of autonomy and widespread politicisation has severely impaired the functioning of Cooperative sector and there is a need to introduce urgent reforms in the Cooperative sector. Discuss. (250 WORDS) 15

समय के साथ, यह अधिकाधिक अनुभव किया जा रहा है कि राज्य द्वारा अनुचित हस्तक्षेप, स्वायत्तता की कमी एवं व्यापक राजनीतिकरण ने सहकारी क्षेत्र के कार्यकरण को गंभीर रूप से विकृत किया है तथा सहकारी क्षेत्र में तत्काल सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

Cooperatives imply an autonomous & voluntary enterprise by group of people organised democratically for a particular socio-economic goal.
eg. AMUL Milk Cooperative in Gujarat.

However, recent years has seen stagnant growth in cooperative sector.

Reasons

(1) Increased politicisation → The democratic character & 1 man - 1 vote - 1 value is being diluted.

(2) The Elites of rural areas are dominating the discussion & procedures.

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(3) There's undue interference from State in the form of registration, meeting norms & criteria prescribed, license system etc.

(4) Political leaders have gained membership in many cooperatives to boost their public image.

(5) State restrict choices & decisions of cooperatives ~~take~~ thus hampers empowerment.

There's a need to introduce wide-ranging reforms →

1) Statutory backing to cooperatives with clearly delineated roles of members, chairperson & state's role.

2) The democratic character needs to be preserved irrespective of individual contribution of assets like land pooled in cooperative. Rules & laws need to be in place for this.

3) There should be bar on any political party member or affiliations.

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4) A national level authority on the lines of ~~Election~~ National Human Rights Commission to oversee safeguards, inquire & advise Union Government.

5) The State should do intervention rather than interference via ~~tax~~ benefits to cooperatives, mass awareness, replication of successful models.

The example of 'Operation Flood' based on cooperatives set up by National Dairy Development Board should serve as a model.

Increased autonomy & checking politicization will lead to a booming cooperative sector ~~that~~ benefits all citizens.

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15. With the current system of health financing in India being largely out-of-pocket payments, examine the need for reforms in healthcare finance. Also discuss the issues associated with reinforcing insurance as the long-term strategy for health financing in this regard. (250 WORDS) **15**

भारत में स्वास्थ्य वित्तपोषण की वर्तमान प्रणाली के अंतर्गत बड़े पैमाने पर आउट-ऑफ-पॉकेट भुगतान किए जाते हैं, ऐसे में स्वास्थ्य देखभाल वित्तपोषण में सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। इस संबंध में स्वास्थ्य वित्तपोषण के लिए दीर्घावधिक रणनीति के रूप में बीमा को सुदृढ़ करने से संबद्ध मुद्दों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

The healthcare is financed by the citizens largely out of their own pockets (OoPE)
OoPE accounts for 62% of healthcare financing in India. This is a major cause of poverty.
This happens because of lack of government funding with only 1.4% GDP being spent on healthcare each year.

The current system has many drawbacks with issues of access, quality, capacity, affordability. With poor government infrastructure, the patients opt for expensive health care from private players.

This calls for reform →

① The objective of National Health Policy 2017 for free drugs, diagnostics & emergency

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health services should be targeted at.

(2) Primary care should be the focus of government funding as most patients deal with it first.

(3) Out-patient costs forms bulk of OoPE. The government should fund it.

(4) There needs to be focus on insurance. The National Health Protection Services (NHPS) provides a 5 lakh cover to 10 crore families for all secondary & tertiary care services.
This will make a dent on OoPE.

(5) Government funds should increase from 1.4% to 2.5% of GDP gradually.

Issues associated with insurance scheme

(1) Insurance is expensive in long term as seen from global examples like Obamacare.

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(2) The private players have unethical practices of 'over the top services' for more profits.

(3) Doesn't solve the primary healthcare objective.

(4) The reimbursement to total medical cost ratio has been poor as seen in Rashtriya Swasthya Abhiyan Yojana.

(5) Can't substitute for government intervention in public healthcare.

Thus, there needs to be a holistic & radical approach to healthcare finance but the need for government to increase its healthcare funding is paramount.

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16. Explain the significance of the recently launched National Nutritional Strategy in the light of sliding ranking of India along the Global Hunger Index. Also, discuss with examples, the role that local self governments can play in promoting, monitoring and sustaining nutrition initiatives.(250WORDS) 15

ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स में भारत की गिरती रैंकिंग के आलोक में हाल ही में आरंभ की गई राष्ट्रीय पोषण रणनीति के महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, पोषण से संबद्ध पहलों को बढ़ावा देने, उनकी निगरानी करने और उन्हें सतत बनाए रखने में स्थानीय स्व-शासन द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

With 43% of population being malnourished (according to UN), India has to step up efforts to tackle the issue.

The National Nutrition Strategy is significant also given that India now ranks 100 out of 114 nations in Global Hunger Index.

Significance :

① Focus on Maternal & child nutrition via convergence of programs —
- Janani Suraksha Yojana (Institutional delivery)
- Integrated Child development Scheme for 0-6 years of children.

② Focus on breastfeeding activities & awareness generation

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(3) Fortified food supplements like Iron & folic acids (50% of women in India are anaemic)

(4) De-Worming programme.

(5) Increase food security via diverse food coverage under PDS & Mid-Day Meal scheme.

(6) Greater Coordination across Ministries of Women & Child; Health Ministry etc.

(7) Better implementation of National Food Security Act.

(8) Focus on clean water access & sanitation
→ Convergence with Swacch Bharat Abhiyan.

The role of local self-government can be paramount →

(1) They can generate awareness & participatory management of schemes such as ICDS.

(2) More extensive monitoring of Mid-Day Meal scheme etc.

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(3) Identification of beneficiaries to programs like Janani Suraksha Yojana.

(4) Maintenance of public primary health care services → check ~~of~~ on doctor's attendance, quality, vacancies etc.

(5) Sustain initiatives via ~~putting~~ pressure on governments at state level.

Thus, involving the local self-government can bring better outcomes of the National Nutrition Strategy.

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17. The bureaucracy in India is facing a number of serious challenges from diminishing human capital to political interference that, if left unaddressed, will lead to further institutional decline. Discuss. How can these challenges be addressed? (250 WORDS) 15

भारत में नौकरशाही, ह्रासमान मानव पूंजी से लेकर राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप तक कई गंभीर चुनौतियों का सामना कर रही है, जिन्हें यदि अनसुलझा छोड़ दिया गया तो आगे और अधिक संस्थागत पतन होगा। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है? (250 शब्द)

The bureaucracy is known as the 'steel frame' of the government. However, the 'steel frame' is getting rusted because of serious challenges →

1. Increased political interference from transfer-postings, service conditions etc.
2. Lack of upright officers
3. Training is absent at mid-career levels.
4. Generalist officers are finding it difficult to cope with globalisation & a hyper-technical environment that needs specialisation.
5. Lack of incentive to risk taking.

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(6) A strong hierarchy, centralised decision making & authoritative functioning is anachronistic with the present times.

(7) Bureaucracy has a top down approach to development

(8) The tradition of fixed visits is being replaced by committees & conferences.

There's a need for wide-ranging reforms

(1) Civil Services Board to handle transfer-postings for a neutral decision.

(2) Lateral Entry of specialists at offices requiring domain expertise.

(3) Mid-Career training.

(4) National Commission to Review Working of Constitution (NCRWC) recommendation is →
"To specialise some of the generalist & generalise some of the specialists".

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(5) 360° performance appraisal

(6) Reviving the All - India Character via Inter - State postings.

(7) Use of ICT to reduce corruption.

(8) Increased coordination & breaking of 'silos' among government

All these steps will go a long way to strengthen the bureaucracy. This will be landmark in the development administration of the country.

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18. While many people have been able to rise above poverty line, India is still home to the largest number of poor. Discuss briefly the underlying factors responsible for the prevalence of poverty in India. What are the areas in which focussed efforts need to be made in order to accelerate poverty eradication in a sustainable manner? (250 WORDS) **15**

जहाँ, कई लोग गरीबी रेखा से ऊपर आने में सफल रहे हैं, वहीं भारत में अभी भी सर्वाधिक संख्या में गरीब निवास करते हैं। भारत में गरीबी की व्यापकता के लिए उत्तरदायी अंतर्निहित कारकों पर संक्षेप में चर्चा कीजिए। गरीबी उन्मूलन की गति को संधारणीय तरीके से तीव्र करने के लिए किन क्षेत्रों में ध्यान केंद्रित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है? (250 शब्द)

The poverty rates have declined from independence with 22% of population under poverty line according to Census of 2011.

Factors for prevalence of poverty

① Lack of employment

- India has seen jobless growth since 1991 reforms with only service led growth.
- There has been less focus on labour intensive industries.
- Rigid labour laws etc. hamper employment generation & cause casualisation of workers.

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(2) Failure of land reforms.

Inequitable access to land led to poverty as people couldn't engage in productive activities.

(3) Poor Education ~~& Health~~. Skills.

With only 77% literacy & poor skills & vocational training, people are ill-equipped to reap the benefits on globalisation.

(4) Lack of focus on Health.

A high Out of Pocket Expenditure on health drives people to poverty.

(5) Agriculture growth stagnating.

50% population dependent on it.

(6) Lack of credit.

Areas of focus

(1) Investment in social infrastructure

Public schools & primary healthcare services need to be overhauled. RTE to be strengthened.

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(2) Skill training & vocational education (Skill India Mission)

(3) Targeted approach as in Aspirational District Program by NITI Ayog.

(4) Focus on labour intensive industries like apparel, leather etc.

(5) Boost education via use of ICT eg. MOOC's courses via Swayam portal

(6) Self-Employment via SHG's need to be boosted.

(7) Access to financial credit via Jan Dhan has to be enhanced.

(8) Basic needs via PDS, food security mission, etc

All these steps will help to make a dent on poverty in India.

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19. In context of the need to strengthen corporate governance, the Kotak panel report has called for a major overhaul in norms for listed companies. Critically discuss the impediments to corporate governance in India and evaluate how the recommendations can help in overcoming them. (250 WORDS) 15

कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस को सुदृढ़ करने की आवश्यकता के संदर्भ में, कोटक पैनल के रिपोर्ट में सूचीबद्ध कंपनियों हेतु मानदंडों में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन का आह्वान किया गया है। भारत में कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए और साथ ही मूल्यांकन कीजिए कि पैनल की सिफारिशें इनसे निपटने में कैसे सहायता कर सकती हैं? (250 शब्द)

Corporate Governance implies the transparent, efficient & ethical practices by corporates which safeguards the interests of all stakeholders.

The recent cases of Tata-Mistry & Infosys has brough the poor corporate governance framework in India to limelight.

The major impediments are →

① Vested interests of large shareholders infringing on rights of minority shareholders.

② A complicit & non-independent Board of Directors to regulate CEO's functionings.
Lack of independent directors.

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(3) A poor audit system with nexus of company & audit parties.

(4) Non-Regular Annual General Meetings (AGMs) with public

(5) Underhand dealings & corruption

(6) Inequitable pay packages among employees.

(7) Non-Compliance with Companies Act, 2013.

(8) Poor regulatory framework

The Kotak Panel has recommended →

(1) One-half of all directors to be independent.

(2) Regular AGMs for public interaction

(3) An independent director has to give in writing reason for his resignation.

(5) A robust audit by 3rd party.

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(5) Strengthening the post of Company Secretary to report on financial dealings by company.

(6) Regular Board of Director Meetings (BOD).

(7) Separation of Chief Managing director & Chief Executive officer positions.

All these steps would help to increase transparency & accountability of all companies. Independent voices in BOD is the need of the hour. An independent audit will help secure the interests of all shareholders too.

Thus, the Kotak Panel Recommendations will lead to a better & robust Corporate Governance framework in India.

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20. Several issues related to adopting new technologies, transforming processes and improving implementation of NeGP need to be addressed. Discuss. Also, enumerate the sets of principles guiding the design and implementation of the e-Kranti Program (NeGP 2.0). (250 WORDS) **15**

नई प्रौद्योगिकियों को अपनाने, प्रक्रियाओं को रूपांतरित करने और एनईजीपी (NeGP) के कार्यान्वयन में सुधार लाने से संबंधित कई मुद्दों से निपटने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, ई-क्रांति कार्यक्रम (NeGP 2.0) के डिजाईन (रूप-रेखा) और कार्यान्वयन का मार्गदर्शन करने वाले सिद्धांतों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

National e-Governance program is important for overhauling governance in India.

Issues

1. Lack of inter-ministerial ~~focus~~ coordination.
2. Funding shortfalls.
3. Infrastructure is not ~~compta~~ compatible across programs & ministries.
4. Adoption of new ICT tools, softwares remains poor because of non-participation of private experts.
5. Bureaucratic resistance to change.

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Principles for e-Kranti

1. Common architecture across ministries.
2. Adoption of new technologies
3. Simplification of processes.
4. Streamlining of data base management.
5. e-office notices etc.

Way forward is increasing funding, coordination & statutory backing of e-Governance measures.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1064)

Name of Candidate	Jayant Nahata		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	247939
Center	ONLINE	Date	4/07/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें **बीस** प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

M-1/4, Plot No-A-12/13, 1st Floor, Ansal Building, Dr. Vidya Sagar Homoeopathic Clinic, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

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1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Highlight the characteristics and applications of Cyber Physical systems. Also, enumerate the various objectives of the Cyber Physical Systems programme recently launched by the government. (150 words) 10

साइबर भौतिक प्रणालियों (साइबर फिजिकल सिस्टम) की विशेषताओं और अनुप्रयोगों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, हाल ही में सरकार द्वारा आरंभ किए गए साइबर भौतिक प्रणाली कार्यक्रम के विभिन्न उद्देश्यों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Cyber-physical systems are those technologies that aim to integrate hardware/physical devices with internet network for ~~ay~~ augmentation in capabilities.
eg. Pilot assist in aeroplanes.

Characteristics

① Amalgamation of internet network & physical systems.

② Cutting edge research development

③ Involves tech like robots, internet of things (IoT) devices, defence systems. ~~like GPS guided cruise missiles etc~~.

④ They are force multipliers

Applications

① Use in defence eg. GPS guidence system in cruise missiles.

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(2) Aviation sector eg. Pilot assist.

(3) Robotics & machines in industries networked to internet for collaboration & coordination.

(4) IoT devices

(5) Satellites etc.

Objectives of Cyber physical program

(1) Funding: Increase investments in research via universities, scholarships in cyber physical programs.

(2) Infrastructure development for testing of such systems

(3) Human Resource: Train scientists in this domain & do capacity building.

(4) Private sector collaborations.

Thus, India needs to further pool in efforts in this cutting edge domain to gain superiority over peers!

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2. Explaining the rationale behind Geographical Indication (GI) protection, highlight the issues in harnessing the potential commercial benefits of GI in India. **(150 words) 10**

भौगोलिक संकेतक (GI) के संरक्षण के पीछे अंतर्निहित तर्कों की व्याख्या करते हुए, भारत में GI के संभावित वाणिज्यिक लाभों के दोहन से संबंधित मुद्दों और चिंताओं पर प्रकाश डालिए।

The Geographical Indication protection is one part of the global ~~patent~~ intellectual property rights regime.

In India, GI is regulated under the GI Protection Act, 1999.

The Rationale →

① Gives protection against 3rd party use → Hence, promotes originality.

② Protects the traditional artisans and local products of an area → Additional remuneration!

③ Gives a 10 year protection which

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is subjected to renewal

(3) Can be used for products like agricultural goods, wine, local handicrafts → Promotes culture and saves diversity.

Issues

- Especially for tribals, documentary proof is difficult to produce to show that the product/art belongs to them
- Only name and location is protection, same good using similar tech can be made by others using different brand.
- ~~Hampers~~ Ambiguity since geographical location ill defined.

Thus, there's a need to refine the law, make adjustments for marginalised sections, allow for other documents as proofs. Will go a long way in strengthening IPR regime!

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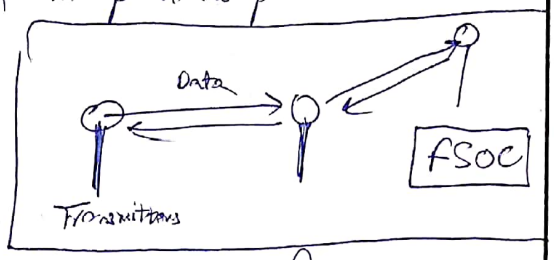
3. What do you understand by Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) Technology? Critically explain its potential in connecting rural and remote areas in India.

(150 words) 10

फ्री स्पेस ऑप्टिकल कम्युनिकेशन (FSOC) प्रौद्योगिकी से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत में ग्रामीण और दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों को जोड़ने में इसकी क्षमताओं की आलोचनात्मक व्याख्या कीजिए।

FSOC is a new innovation in ~~the~~ communication technology using line of sight data transfer. Recently, FSOC is being deployed in Andhra Pradesh in partnership with a private firm.



Features

1. Uses direct ~~big~~ line of sight communication network.
2. No need of broadband/ spectrum allocation
3. Cheap in setting up & expansion
4. Used in all weather conditions.
5. Ultra fast

It is just ~~like~~ how optical fibres transmit data using light however unlike it, ~~it~~ this doesn't require laying down

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the expensive fibre cable networks hence expanding the scope of its deployment especially in rural areas.

Cons

1. There might be some disturbances in network since the transmitters are placed over ground ~~& its dep~~
2. Depends on line of sight thus limiting distance.
3. Fear of stealing of expensive equipment unlike optical cables.

Way Forward

The technology shows huge promise to disrupt the connectivity challenge. It should be used as part of Bharat Net project in its next phase for connection to all 2.5 lakh panchayats.

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4. What are Orphan Drugs? Examine the significance of putting in place a policy framework for such drugs in a developing country such as India.
(150 words) 10

ऑर्फन ड्रग्स क्या हैं? भारत जैसे एक विकासशील देश में ऐसी दवाओं हेतु एक नीतिगत ढांचा स्थापित करने के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Orphan drugs are a classification of drugs by WHO (World Health Organization) as those which don't receive major funding in Research & Development.

Because →

① Mostly for diseases belonging to tropical countries

② Thus, West doesn't fund programs sufficiently. While developing countries of tropics don't have funds.

However, they hold huge importance for countries like India because →

① Massive impact of a single drug in (Orphan category) because of huge population.

② Neglected Tropical diseases (NTD's) like Malaria, Encephalitis etc. Kill millions of people in tropical regions.

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③ Can be utilized by our Generic Industry to supply to African nations as well → foreign exchange earning!!

④ Decrease the losses to GDP & to human capital.

In this respect, the way forward is →

① Collaborate with other tropical nations to set up joint research parks.

② Involve private sector & incentivise RnD.

③ Pump in more funds for research → India spends only 0.7% of GDP while China does 2.0%.

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5. Highlight the factors that give advantage in attracting talent to a particular country. In this context, what steps should the government take to turn "brain drain" into "brain gain" in India? **(150 words) 10**

उन कारकों पर प्रकाश डालिए जो किसी विशेष देश को प्रतिभा को आकर्षित करने में बढ़त प्रदान करते हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में "ब्रेन ड्रेन" (प्रतिभा पलायन) को "ब्रेन गेन" (प्रतिभा लाभ) में परिवर्तित करने के लिए सरकार को क्या कदम उठाने चाहिए।

Brain drain has been a hot public issue debated in India. It involves the loss of intellectual/educated Indians to foreign countries due to many factors.

Factors germane to attracting talent

① Valuing Merit & Excellence by the institutions rather than excessive focus on reservations.

② Funding to Research and Development → India (0.7% GDP) & China (2% GDP)

③ Economic opportunities → Presence of White collar jobs commensurate to demand.

④ Push factors like lack of infrastructure in universities, low income package/salaries etc.

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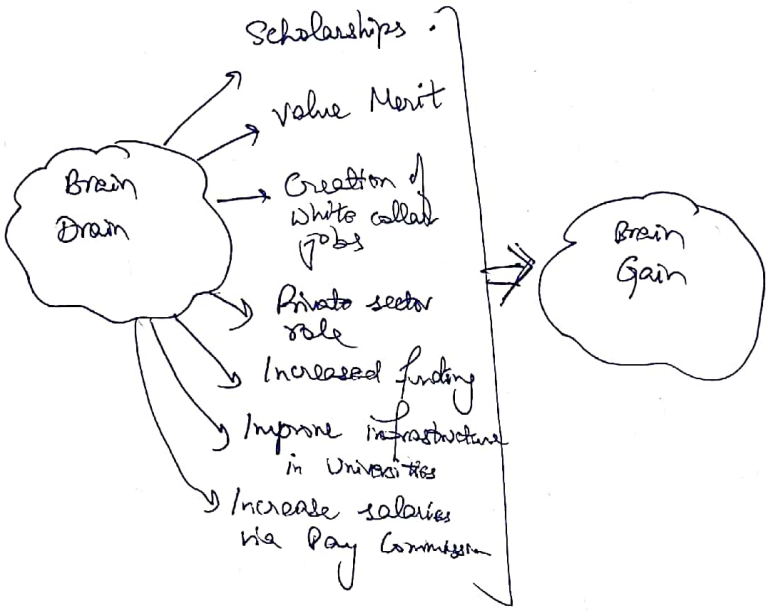
(5) Opportunities to rise up the ladder of income.

(6) Respect for educated class.

Steps to be taken



Government is already moving in this direction via programs like PM Research fellowship (Rs. 75000/month), VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research Assistantship), INSPIRE fellowship, proposal to replace UGC by HECI etc.

All these steps would lead to turn ~~out~~ around slowly!

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6. What are quantum computers? Discuss their potential in solving problems that are too complex for today's classical computers. (150 words) 10
क्वांटम कंप्यूटर क्या हैं? उन समस्याओं को हल करने में इनकी क्षमता पर चर्चा कीजिए जो वर्तमान के क्लासिकल कंप्यूटरों के लिए अत्यधिक जटिल हैं।

Quantum computers are advanced computers using sub-atomic particles for processing. Qubits are used in such computing. These unlike binary 0 or 1 can occupy the 0/1 states simultaneously & hence →

1) Perform very complex tasks
2) Rapid processing of large data
3) Churn in large statistical observations

They have a huge potential in applications like →

① Quantum Communication
Used in satellites recently by China's Micius sat for very secure & un-hackable communication.

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(2) Dynamic modelling of molecular mechanisms → Boost to biotechnology & pharma sectors

(3) Used in Meteorology for predicting cyclone, floods etc much in advance than super-computers today by Meteorological department → SAVE LIVES.

(4) Do complex simulations of missile tests, Satellite launches etc.

(5) Help us know more about the universe churning vast data related to it.

Thus, the scope is huge!
India is making a nascent start whereas China/US are leading the race. We should not miss the bus & start investing in this futuristic technology.

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7. Discuss the obstacles in women's access to science education in India and also suggest remedial measures to overcome these obstacles.
(150 words) 10

भारत में विज्ञान की शिक्षा तक महिलाओं की पहुंच के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए और इन बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए उपचारात्मक उपाय भी सुझाइए।

Science education, like all other spheres of public life has institutionalized discrimination against women because of entrenched notions of patriarchy etc.

This leads to a poor representation of 'Women in Science'

Obstacles

① Though enrollment rates at primary level are nearing 100%, the enrollment at higher education is only around 25% with a skewed ratio against women.

② Patriarchal mindset stops women from pursuing higher education.

③ Norms that women need to manage families, leads to them dropping out their careers.

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(4) Salaries for women are often not equal to men → Subsistence becomes difficult. (5) Sexual harassment at workplace

This is alarming trend. Urgent steps are needed.

*Remedial Measures

1) Focus on increasing the gross enrollment ratio at secondary level & tertiary level for women.

2) Fight patriarchy via gender sensitization → awareness campaigns, ads etc.

3) Scholarships targeting women talent like INSPIRE program, should be enhanced.

4) Sexual harassment to be tackled → SHE boxes for grievance redressal

Only when women are involved & active participent in the development of nation can we think of a SUPERPOWER Status!

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8. With the help of examples from various fields discuss the achievements and limitations of India's performance in indigenisation and development of new technology. Also, comment on the significance of MSME sector in achieving indigenisation of technology. **(150 words) 10**

विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उदाहरणों की सहायता से, नई प्रौद्योगिकी के स्वदेशीकरण एवं विकास में भारत के प्रदर्शन संबंधी उपलब्धियों और सीमाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, प्रौद्योगिकी के स्वदेशीकरण को प्राप्त करने में MSME क्षेत्रक के महत्व पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Indigenization of technology is key to accelerate India's economic growth and prevent from vulnerabilities of external shocks.

Examples of indigenization

* Achievements

1) ISRO has been developing technologies like →
- Li-ion batteries recently (E-vehicle application)
- IRNSS (Regional Navigation)
- Mars Orbiters (MOM)
- Cryogenic Engine etc.

2) DRDO has been working on indigenous tech like →
- Integrated Missile Development Program (Agni, Trishul, Prithvi, Nag etc)

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③ Generic pharma industry
④ Recently ROTOVAC vaccine for diarrhoea.

Limitations

1) Still importing silicon wafers / PV modules from China → Solar industry.

2) Key defence technologies like submarines, S-400 trium, armed drones from USA.

3) Vaccines like Glenvac for cancer, etc. delamanid & bedaquiline for TB. etc.

Significance of MSME

1) Contributes to 40% of exports so huge role

2) With funding, they can manufacture PV modules in India too.

3) A large workforce is employed here.

4) Engineering goods are already indigenized tech & exported ~~to~~ ~~of~~ outside.

Thus, there's a need to step up indigenization, role of MSME is crucial in this endeavour!

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9. India needs to collaborate and participate in international scientific projects in order to place itself as a major player in cutting edge research. Discuss in the light of ongoing global mega science projects. **(150 words) 10**
कटिंग एज रिसर्च में स्वयं को एक प्रमुख प्रतिभागी के रूप में स्थापित करने हेतु भारत को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वैज्ञानिक परियोजनाओं (इंटरनेशनल साइंटिफिक प्रोजेक्ट्स) में सहयोग करने और भाग लेने की आवश्यकता है। वर्तमान में वैश्विक स्तर पर जारी मेगा साइंस प्रोजेक्ट्स के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Collaboration is the key in today's world as the technologies gets complex and the cost/manpower required gets increasing.

Examples

① CERN → Higgs Boson (Large Hadron Collider)

- Multi-national physics experiment happen here.
- Indian universities also took part.
- Helps in understanding of the universe
- Indian collaboration/participation received praise. ~~Also is~~
- Helps in developing cutting edge equipments like telescopes, observatories, carrying out fundamental particle physics research etc.

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(2) Human Genome Project
- Multi-national program to sequence the human genome / biotechnology frontiers etc.
- India didn't participate, thus we lost opportunity to gain insights into new gene sequencing techniques, funding for research, best partners that could have collaborated..

(3) LIGO
- Laser interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory.
- India also has plans to set up one here.
- Will establish us in this cutting edge research to uncover secrets of the universe.

(4) Neutrino observatory @ Bodi West-Hills.

Thus, India should step up collaboration to place itself ahead in cutting edge research to solve problems of mankind!

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10. What is Mitochondrial Replacement Therapy? Discuss its potential in reducing genetic disorders. Also, list various issues around its use in fertility medicine. **(150 words) 10**

माइटोकॉन्ड्रियल रिप्लेसमेंट थेरेपी क्या है? आनुवांशिक विकारों को कम करने में इसकी क्षमता पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, फर्टिलिटी मेडिसिन (प्रजनन चिकित्सा) में इसके उपयोग से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Mitochondrial Replacement Therapy or MRT is a technique ~~via~~ through which defective mitochondria from a ~~donor~~ patient is replaced using healthy mitochondrial nucleus & placing it in the patient's cell.

Potential

- Recently, UK allowed 3 parents baby using MRT technology.
  - Helps prevent carry forward of defective genes from mother to the child.
  - otherwise led to fatal diseases.
- Genes which are defective & present in mitochondria can be replaced easily.
- No ethical challenge as majority (≈ 99%) genes are from biological mother/father, rest fraction is from donor.

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Issues

- Ethical challenges, though less, are still a roadblock.
- It is an expensive technology so issues of equity come in.
- Success rate is still not very high so reliability factors.
- Regulatory / Legal barriers present in India.
- Individual hesitatance to using MRT

MRT is a revolution in medicine. Necessary research funding & enabling regulations are need of the hour.

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11. The rapid diffusion of Artificial Intelligence begets unique opportunities and challenges for India. Discuss. What can be done to address these challenges? **(250 words) 15**

आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता) का तीव्र प्रसार, भारत के लिए विशिष्ट अवसर और चुनौतियां उत्पन्न करता है। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the intelligence acquired by machines. Has the potential to disrupt the way we live, work & interact!

Opportunities

1) Take up menial & labourious tasks & leave only human aspects / rewarding jobs - eg. Scavenging ops.

2) Supplement efforts to increase productivity.

3) AI in defence technology like radars, drones, weapons can be a force multiplier.

4) AI in business like chat bots could push growth & expansion.

5) AI has potential to be the third factor of production apart from capital & labour.

6) AI in education → ~~Cont~~ AI assisted teachers in rural areas.

Challenges

1) Unlike previous disruptions like steam engine or computers, AI can wipe out not

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only low class but middle class jobs. Can lead to mass social unrest.

2) AI bias / stupidity can cause us lives!

3) AI in defence is ethical challenge.

4) Singularity → phase when AI replaces humans.

5) AI can turn against humans! → Apocalypse

~~Steps~~

~~1) Create a conducive regulatory environment~~

6) AI tech requires high skilled human capital whereas India lacks behind.

Steps

1) Create a conducive regulatory environment
- Have Ethicists in AI lass / funding to AI.

2) Step up funding in RnD → Only 0.7% of GDP currently vs China (2%.)

3) Education system → Computer Science to be introduced compulsorily from secondary education

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(4) Incentives to industry to research on AI & incorporate it to 'supplement' human labour.

(5) Regulations to be framed carefully to avoid mass unemployment.
eg. Restrictions on self-drive cars to save driving jobs.

In this multi-pronged approach, we can aim to utilise/savour the fruits of AI while gearing up to its challenges.

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12. Briefly explain the concept of Additive Manufacturing as well as its advantages and challenges in comparison with conventional manufacturing methods. Also, comment on its potential in terms of revolutionising organ replacement in humans. **(250 words) 15**

ऐडिटिव मैन्युफैक्चरिंग (योजक विनिर्माण) की अवधारणा की संक्षेप में व्याख्या कीजिए, साथ ही परंपरागत विनिर्माण विधियों की तुलना में इसके लाभों और चुनौतियों को भी बताइए। साथ ही, मनुष्यों में अंग प्रतिस्थापन में क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन लाने के संदर्भ में इसकी क्षमता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Additive Manufacturing implies technologies like 3-D & 4-D printing which can manufacture objects rapidly using multiple base materials in a pre-designed layout.

Advantages

1. Materials like plastic etc. can be used after melting.
2. Multiple design options
3. Its very portable → Small 3-D printers are now at International Space Station.
4. Can be used on-site manufacturing. eg. Construction of houses in China (pilot basis)

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(5) Its Cheaper

(6) Doesn't require advanced knowledge to operate.

(7) Automation is inbuilt → Very efficient

Challenges

(1) Heavy equipments & tools still out of scope.

(2) Only limited materials can be used
→ Those which can be easily melted.

(3) Engineering goods, heavyweight capital goods can't be made.

(4) Still, a nascent technology.

Potential in Organ Replacement

(1) Manufacturing of scaffolds is easy & possible in labs.

(2) Organs like bones, knees (for knee replacement surgery) can be manufactured.

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(3) Recently, even tissues ~~can be~~ are being used to make epithelial cells (skin), ears, nose etc.

Thus, additive manufacturing is a cutting edge development. More focus is to be given to further develop this technology & use in our industry!

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13. What is the Human Genome Project–write (HGP-write) and how is it different from the earlier Human Genome Project (HGP)? In this context, also critically explain the potential benefits of the HGP projects for healthcare activities in India. **(250 words) 15**

ह्यूमन जीनोम प्रोजेक्ट-राईट (HGP-write) (मानव जीनोम परियोजना-राईट) क्या है और यह पूर्ववर्ती ह्यूमन जीनोम प्रोजेक्ट (HGP) से किस प्रकार भिन्न है? इस संदर्भ में, भारत में स्वास्थ्य देखभाल गतिविधियों के लिए HGP के संभावित लाभों की आलोचनात्मक व्याख्या भी कीजिए।

Human Genome Project was an ambitious program initiated by USA with the objective of sequencing the entire human genome.

- Helped to sequence the 1st Human Genome completely.
- Developed rapid gene sequencing technologies
- Increased understanding of the basic unit of life → DNA as well as RNA.

HGP-write aims to further develop on the HGP program. ~~earlier~~.

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Potential benefits

① Big boon to pharmaceutical sector
- Personalised medicine based on genetic makeup can be developed

② Gene editing using CRISPR-Cas will be better deployed once full knowledge of genome is there
- Help treat genetic disorders
- Designer babies can be developed

③ Biotechnology sector → Companies like BIOCON will be benefited

④ Given the anti-microbial resistance, new therapies based on genes i.e gene therapy can be deployed to treat vast number of diseases.

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In this way, HGP holds a huge significance to India.

WF

1. Increase funding to HGP research.
2. Collaborate in science projects at international level.
3. Regulations to be suited to faster innovation
4. Patent regime to be strengthened to incentivise R&D.

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14. Comment upon the need for encouraging participation of private players in the space sector in India. Can it be argued that furthering India's achievements in the space sector requires a comprehensive space law? **(250 words) 15**

भारत में अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्रक में निजी प्रतिभागियों की भागीदारी को प्रोत्साहित करने की आवश्यकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। क्या यह तर्क दिया जा सकता है कि अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्रक में भारत की उपलब्धियों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए एक व्यापक अंतरिक्ष कानून की आवश्यकता है?

Space sector, unlike other sectors has remained a traditional domain of government even after the new economic policy (NEP) of 1991.

Need for private participation

(1) Develop an indigenous space industry
- Help to indigenize technologies
- Capture the $5-3 bn space launch market
- Reduce dependence on foreign countries like France (Ariane), Russia (GLAS Komos) etc.

(2) Channelise greater funding to space given limited resources at the disposal of government → Annual ISRO budget → ~Rs. 10,000 crore only.

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(3) Private sector can readily form Joint Ventures & bring in new technologies

(4) Mass production & launch of satellites.

- Now Space Secretary has said all PSLV's will be manufactured by private sector by 2020.

(5) Global trends as Model

U.S.A has huge private sector participation in the form of Elon Musk's SpaceX, Virgin Galactic etc. They have immensely benefited.

(6) Take the load off ISRO for manufacturing tasks & leave it for only RnD sector.

India's space sector does need a comprehensive law →

(1) National security strategy remains disjointed → Needs to be integrated given China's space weaponisation.

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(2) Private Sector role to be enhanced

(3) Human Space program to be aimed at in the near future.

(4) Furthering the scope of international collaborations.

(5) Pursuing space diplomacy eg. GSAT 7 i.e South Asia Satellite should be a goal

(6) Holistic development of the sector building upon already stupendous achievements.

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15. Water shortage in India has been sought to be addressed through various policy and technological interventions. Explain. Also, examine the benefits of desalination technology and the costs associated with it. **(250 words) 15**
भारत में विभिन्न नीतिगत और तकनीकी उपायों के माध्यम से जल की कमी की समस्या का समाधान करने के प्रयास किए जाते रहे हैं। व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, विलवणीकरण प्रौद्योगिकी के लाभों एवं इससे संबद्ध लागतों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Water shortage has become critical with NITI Aayog's latest report pointing to the worst ever water crisis affecting 60 crore Indians.

Water shortage can be addressed →

* Policy actions / Technology interventions

1. Groundwater Management Bill needs to come up into action → India's 70% water needs are fulfilled from here.
   - Aquifer mapping needs to be done via ~~space~~ remote sensing technology.
2. Wastewater management needs to become a priority.
   - Recent, LOTUS project with Netherlands to treat Barapullah drain via biotechnology is a welcome step.

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3. Rainwater harvesting needs to be prioritised.

4. Water use efficiency to be increased especially in agriculture using micro-irrigation → Partnering with Israel already.

5. River basin management

6. Inter-linking rivers eg. Ken-Betwa linkage

7. Reuse water & Recycle it

8. Desalination of seawater (on pilot) being attempted

9. Rejuvenation of traditional water storage structures eg. Tanks in South India, Baolis in Rajasthan.

Desalination Technology holds promise

Benefits

① Can utilise potentially unlimited sea water for daily use as well as drinking.

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② Israel has already tapped this tech to recycle 90% of its water.

③ Can end water shortage for coastal populations.

Costs

① Very costly technique
② Equity issues since poor can't afford
③ Huge infra required
④ Technology is still nascent in India

Urgent steps need to be taken to get us out of water crisis facing us today!

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16. Originally devised as a distributed ledger technology for Bitcoin, Blockchain offers a wide range of applications across sectors, especially banking and finance. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

मूलतः बिटकॉइन के लिए एक डिस्ट्रीब्यूटेड लेजर टेक्नोलॉजी के रूप में प्रकल्पित (इज़ाद), ब्लॉकचेन विविध क्षेत्रकों, विशेष रूप से बैंकिंग और वित्त में विभिन्न प्रकार के अनुप्रयोग प्रस्तुत करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Blockchain is a distributed public ledger which is based on cryptography for secure record keeping and transactions between individuals.

Originally, the blockchain technology become popular with the rise of Bitcoins which had Blockchain at its back-end.

Features of Blockchain

1. Distributed network → Trust!
2. Cryptographic technique → Can't be tampered
3. Low-cost as no intermediates required
4. Very fast transactions for some reasons.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Blockchain because of its features has wide applications →

① Used in banking & finance →

- For records of financial transactions such as deposits received, loans sanctioned, mortgaged properties, interest payments etc.
- Helps in easy / quick fraud detection.
- Help fight Non-Performing Assets problem.
- Self-accountability & audit
- Low cost of transactions so decreased interest costs to borrowers → Economic growth!

eg. Axis bank recently incorporate it (on pilot basis)

② Use in land records

- Land titling will be easier.
- Land ceilings can be complied with

③ Benami Transactions can be identified.

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Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(4) Income Tax records will be easy to scrutinise → Prevent tax evasion

(5) Enforce Intellectual Property Rights

(6) Communication technology can be boosted

Thus, blockchain has myriad applications, there's a need to incorporate it to increase productivity across industries!

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Don't write anything this margin
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17. What do you understand by TRIPS plus provisions being advocated by developed countries outside the WTO based TRIPS agreement? Do you think India should show some flexibility and incorporate certain TRIPS plus provisions in its IPR regime? **(250 words) 15**

विकसित देशों द्वारा WTO आधारित ट्रिप्स (TRIPS) समझौते से बाहर अनुशंसित किए जा रहे ट्रिप्स-प्लस प्रावधानों से आप क्या समझते हैं? क्या आपके विचार से भारत को कुछ लचीलापन दिखाना चाहिए एवं अपनी IPR व्यवस्था में कुछ ट्रिप्स-प्लस प्रावधानों का समावेश करना चाहिए?

Intellectual property rights (IPR) are a set of legal provisions used to protect the originality and maintain ownership with the creator.

TRIPS agreement was a landmark agreement on IPR agreed & ratified to by almost all members of the WTO (World Trade Organization) as part of Doha Rounds. Currently India is fully compliant with its provisions. We made changes in our patent laws substantially. For eg. Incorporation of the concept of 'product' patent rather than the 'process' patent earlier.

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Recently, developed countries especially USA & Japan (the latter as part of RCEP negotiations) are forcing India to adopt TRIPS plus provisions. • These are a set of extra, stricter rules to strengthen the existing TRIPS regime.

- Include provisions for secondary patents a.k.a evergreening of patents ~~wh~~
- These include provisions for patents of even minor variants showing little change in bio efficacy. ~~which India~~

Pros

① Will help negotiate other concessions from developed countries in return.
Eg. Freer access to their markets for our services or movement of skilled professionals

② Help boost innovation & R&D investments

③ Increase the portfolio of patented pharma products available to Indian consumers.

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Cons

① Will lead to evergreening of patents on pharma/medical products thereby hampering access to cheaper generics

② Indian consumers ~~need~~ bereft of cheaper drugs

③ They are anyway outside WTO mandated TRIPS to which we are compliant.

④ Expropriation of profits by global MNCs.

Thus, given ~~that~~ the cons of accepting are detrimental to India's interests, we should ally with other countries like China to push back such demands of TRIPS+.

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18. What do you understand by Digital therapeutics? Discuss the opportunities & challenges of Digital Therapeutics specifically in context of preventing lifestyle diseases in India. **(250 words) 15**

डिजिटल थेराप्यूटिक्स (चिकित्सा शास्त्र) से आप क्या समझते हैं? विशेष रूप से, भारत में जीवनशैली से संबंधित रोगों की रोकथाम के संदर्भ में डिजिटल थेराप्यूटिक्स के अवसरों एवं चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Digital therapeutics are digital/electronic devices used for augmenting medical care to patients.
For eg. Diabetes monitor via glucose sensitive chip inside patients arm.

Opportunities

1) Revolutionary way to increase/augment medical treatment along with conventional medicines.

2) Help to inform patients & doctors of vital body parameters like glucose, WBC, temperature levels → lifestyle diseases prevention

3) Intervene to nudge patients to take medicines at right time or to adopt healthy lifestyle practices.

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4) Convenient
5) Easy access across multiple devices & to far off doctors → Telemedicine. in rural areas.

Challenges

1) High cost is a barrier especially for poor & lower middle income groups.

2) Not tested completely to verify accuracy

3) Regulatory framework ~~to~~ inhibit development & practical mass use.

4) Patient's inhibitions in use of new technologies.

5) Privacy is a concern since data gets sent to internet connected devices.

6) Bio-Compatibility an issue

7) Availability in developing markets like India

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Hence, we see that there are both vital challenges & opportunities in this technology. We need to evolve a set of suitable regulatory framework, invest in RnD to verify its advantages and bring down costs to truly usher in a revolution.

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19. The efforts to improve science and R&D in India need to go beyond questions of expenditure. Comment. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में विज्ञान तथा R&D को उन्नत बनाने के प्रयासों को व्यय के प्रश्नों से परे जाने की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India lags far behind its peers (BRICS) and developed nations in the field of science and RnD.

Most scholars point to the low expenditure by India as the primary cause →
India spends only 0.7% of GDP whereas China spends nearly thrice at 2.% of GDP.

However, even with small budgets wonders can be done, so the efforts to improve current scenarios in science need to go beyond questions of expenditure.

① Firstly, Countries like Israel, the size of Kerala, with much smaller budgets have far advanced RnD sector thus its not about expenditure alone.

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(2) The current spending is mostly driven by government & not private sector which is opposite to what exists in developed countries.
The private sector should take initiatives.
eg. Tata Institute of fundamental Research (TIFR) is a model.

(3) Even the current spending by government is to select few ~~sec~~ sectoral organizations led by DRDO (for defence), ISRO (space), BARC (nuclear science) etc.
We need to diversify.

(4) The role of universities in research is not praiseworthy either. More research funding, autonomy, industry - university collaborations should happen.
eg. BMW has partnerships with German Engineering Institutions.

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(5) Investment needs to go in a concentrated fashion to achieve outcomes rather than thinning out resources.

Thus, it is about setting priorities, diversification, prodding private sector and universities to step up their role. Only then India can aim to break into the top league of nations. Recent, Global Innovation Index India's ranking improved to 60 after 5 long years so its a positive sign. Long way to go!

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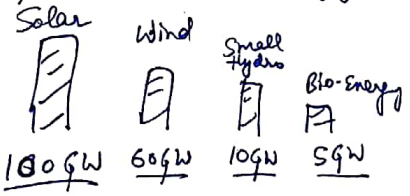
20. Adopting a mission mode approach for developing energy storage systems will be crucial for realizing India's electric mobility ambitions as well as achieving our renewable energy targets. Analyze. **(250 words) 15**

भारत की इलेक्ट्रिक मोबिलिटी महत्वाकांक्षाओं को साकार करने एवं साथ ही हमारे नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए, ऊर्जा भंडारण प्रणालियों (एनर्जी स्टोरेज सिस्टम्स) का विकास करने हेतु एक मिशन मोड दृष्टिकोण को अपनाना महत्वपूर्ण होगा। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India on its path to fulfill the Intentionally Determined National Contributions (INDC's) to paris climate accord as well as to achieve self-sufficiency in fuel requirements has adopted two goals →

1) Electric Mobility Vision 2030 → To shift to electric vehicles (EV) completely by 2030

2) 175 GW renewable energy targets by 2022



For both of these missions, developing energy storage systems is crucial.
A mission mode approach is needed.

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Reasons

① Renewable energy once produced has to be stored for use later as instant consumption is not feasible.

② Since solar, wind etc. suffer from vagaries of nature, there's a need to store energy at times of low production.

③ Since, the targets are very ambitious, a mission mode approach is needed.

a) Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) program of government aims to push in funding for associated EV technologies such as energy storage systems. There's a need to push in more funding.

b) Timeline based approach is required e.g. Using a sun-set clause on government funding.

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c) Partnerships with multi-nationals for faster tech transfers.
eg. TESLA's Power Wall is a revolutionary energy storage device recently launched.

d) Coordination among various departments like Ministry of Heavy Industries, Ministry of Power, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.

e) Collaborate with private players etc.

Thus, a mission mode approach is needed to fulfill the twin goals!

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1067)

Name of Candidate	Jayant Nahata		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	247939
Center	Online.	Date	4/9/18

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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3	10	
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9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
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15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   bl esa chl iz'u gSa vaxzsth vkSj fgUnh esa Nis gSa
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   lHkh iz'u vfuok;Z gSa
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   izR;sd iz'u@Hkkx ds vad mlds lkeus fn, x, gSa
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक ugha feysaxs
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना pkfg,A
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर iqfLrdk esa [kkyh NksM+k gqvk i"B ;k mlds vad dks Li"V :i ls dkVk tkuk pkfg,A

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. What is the role that opposition plays in a democracy like India? In this context, discuss whether our Parliament can benefit from a shadow cabinet. **(150 words)** 10

भारत जैसे लोकतंत्र में विपक्ष क्या भूमिका निभाता है? इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या हमारी संसद छाया मंत्रिमंडल (शैडो कैबिनेट) से लाभान्वित हो सकती है।

Ambedkar had said that the Parliament should belong to the Opposition to hold the government accountable.

The role of opposition in democracy →

① Criticizes government excesses in legislative actions such as Aadhaar Act (Right to Privacy) in Question Hour, Zero Hour.

② Holds the Executive (Council of Ministers) actions to account eg. Corruption cases, Rafale deal etc. via Motions & Resolutions

③ Presents holistic & opposing view points on government bills / executive action.

④ Puts forward the views of minorities or sidelined classes.

⑤ Stops speedy & non-carefully drafted bills. ⑥ Crucial role in Parliamentary Committees

Don't write anything this margin

(7) Ensures that government has confidence of people via No-confidence Motions.

(8) Bring urgent issues to debate via Motions (Adjournment motion etc)

The Shadow cabinet is a feature of British Parliament in which the opposition has a counter cabinet with ~~each~~ members having specific ministerial issue ~~resp~~ responsibility.

India can benefit from it →

(1) Will build expertise of the opposition members.

(2) Prepares opposition for future ministerial role.

(3) Boosts constructive criticism of government.

(4) Provides for a stable alternative option in case the government loses confidence of House.

Thus, India can benefit from the tradition of shadow cabinet & there's need to incorporate it.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. Where there is a right, there is a remedy. In this context, discuss the nature and significance of writs in India with adequate examples. **(150 words) 10**

जहाँ अधिकार है, वहाँ उपचार भी है। इस संदर्भ में, यथोचित उदाहरणों के साथ भारत में रिटों की प्रकृति और महत्व की चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 32 of the Indian Constitution provides for Constitutional remedy against violation of fundamental rights (FR). Similarly, Article 226 provides the High Courts power to issue writs for other matters along with FR enforcement.

There are 5 type of writs →

- Habeas Corpus – to prevent illegal detention
- Prohibition – to protect judicial & executive over-reach
- Quo-Warranto – to ensure legitimacy of legislative, judicial or executive action.
- Certiorari – transfer cases from lower courts
- Mandamus – to direct fulfillment of legal duties.

The writs are/can be issued against any organ of the government for fulfillment of FR & other matters of importance.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

They hold huge significance →

- The failure to issue Habeas Corpus writ during Emergency jeopardised human rights.
- Prohibition writ prevents over-reach by lower courts in deciding cases outside their mandate.
- The SC mandamus decree ~~for~~ against ministries forces them to fulfill their ~~decrees~~ duties
- Certiorari was issued to transfer Godhra cases outside Gujarat for a fairer probe.

Thus, the significance of writs is paramount to uphold the principles of Justice.

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3. Enumerate the objectives of NITI Aayog. Also, discuss the performance of this body since its inception and suggest measures to make it more effective. **(150 words)** 10

NITI आयोग के उद्देश्यों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। साथ ही, इसकी स्थापना के बाद से इस निकाय के प्रदर्शन की चर्चा कीजिए एवं इसे और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के उपाय सुझाइये।

NITI Aayog as a policy making body was established replacing the erstwhile Planning Commission.

Its Objectives are →

① To work as a policy formulation institution & advisor to Central & State Government.

② To enhance Cooperative Federalism & Team India approach for holistic & inclusive development trajectory.

③ To bring expert opinions, civil society views & government thinking on a common platform for deliberation & action.

The body has performed very well →

① Released various policies like Draft Model Contract Farming Act, Land Leasing laws, Policy on AI etc.

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(2) Released various benchmarks such as Liveability index, Ease of doing business across states.

(3) Working with States to transform education & health via SATH E program, Aspirational Districts Program.

(4) Brought in experts like Bibek Debroy, ~~Arvind~~ Rajiv Kumar (Current VC)

(5) Increased private sector role in planning/implementation. However issues of centralisation, scope of work/mandate, issues of elitism prevails.

Measures →

(1) More members from State Government.

(2) Incorporate members/special invitees of NGOs like MKSS etc.

(3) Coordination with think tanks like ORF, IDSA etc.

(4) Increased financial autonomy & say in government decision making.

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4. In view of the political class's inability to develop and maintain conventions relating to the appropriate use of Article 356, the Supreme Court's decision in the Bommai case provided much needed clarity. Comment. (150 words) 10

अनुच्छेद 356 के उचित उपयोग से संबंधित परिपाटी विकसित करने और उसे बनाए रखने में राजनीतिक वर्ग की अक्षमता को देखते हुए, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा बोम्मई वाद में दिए गए निर्णय ने अत्यावश्यक स्पष्टता प्रदान की है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Article 356 which was envisioned as a 'dead letter' has been used extensively to declare President's rule in States eg.
- Indira Gandhi in 1980 dismissed 9 State Government (Non-Congress).
- It has been used more than 115 times till date in context of ideological differences, opportunism & party politics.
- Use of Governor office to impose A356.

The S.C in Bommai case, 1994 outlined various guidelines →

- A356 to be used as a "measure of last resort."
- The confidence of government to be checked via floor test & not Governor's discretion.
- Only suspension of State Legislature can be effected until the Parliament approves

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it, there can be no dissolution.

- The Council of Ministers advise to President will not be inquired but the report on which President takes decision can be demanded to prove facts & compelling circumstances.
- ~~There~~ The action of President on A356 imposition is subject to judicial review on grounds of malafide intentions & non-application of mind.
- The Court can restore the dissolved legislature / executive in case of improprietory use of A356.
- It declared Federalism as basic structure.

The recent restoration of the Arunachal Pradesh Assembly was according to Bommai judgement. Judicial activism has played a crucial role to have a stronger Indian federation in absence of political cohesion & proprietory.

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5. Press freedom and good governance are not mutually exclusive. They support each other while promoting a country's economic and human development. Comment. (150 words) 10

प्रेस की स्वतंत्रता और सुशासन परस्पर अपवर्जी नहीं हैं। देश के आर्थिक और मानव विकास को प्रोत्साहित करते हुए ये एक-दूसरे को समर्थन प्रदान करते हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Press freedom is enshrined under Article 19's Freedom of Speech.

Nehru said that he would prefer a free press & no government over a government with no free press. This shows the importance of press freedom.

There have been some criticism of press as anti-thetical to good governance →

- Inhibits due justice via charactor assassination on media channels
- Encourages populist measures by government.
- Media is critical to important foreign policy moves preventing Article 51 mandate of international peace eg. Adverse views on China, USA etc.

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However, ~~they~~ good governance can be ~~effected~~ using press →

- To bring the viewpoints of all class of citizens like poor, marginalised.
  Eg. In Triple Talaq debates.
- To criticize government omissions & mistakes eg. During Crop failure & farmer distress.
- Brings expert opinions on critical issues
- Its essential to balance economic development with rights of the people.
  eg. Narmada issue coverage in national debate.
- Criticizes government corruption eg. 2G, Coal auction etc.
- Investigative journalism. eg. By Indian Express in Panama Paper leaks.

Its rightly called as the 4th estate of the government essential to country's economic & human development.

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6. SHGs have succeeded in delivering financial inclusion, but for them to evolve as viable business enterprise requires a different approach. Analyse in the context of the twin goals of rural growth and promotion of women's entrepreneurship. **(150 words)** 10

SHGs ने वित्तीय समावेशन प्रदान करने में सफलता प्राप्त की है, लेकिन उनके लिए व्यवहार्य व्यापार उद्यम के रूप में विकसित होने के लिए एक भिन्न दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है। ग्रामीण विकास और महिला उद्यमिता के संवर्द्धन के जुड़वाँ लक्ष्यों के संदर्भ में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

SHG's or Self Help Groups have come a long way since NABARD & SEWA collaborated in 1990s. They have succeeded in financial inclusion with more than 4 million SHG-Bank linkages established. They provide ~~loans~~ micro loans to women entrepreneurs, improve financial literacy, saving habits, investment opportunities & pooled collateral.

However for true rural growth, there's need of transformation of SHG's into viable business entities which focus not just on financial inclusion. Their mandate should be to be profitable, have correct business plans, invest funds where there is viable rate of return, prevent consumption expenditure. Goals of viability thus needs to be pursued than mere financial access via bank linkage.

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Steps in this regard can include →

1. Financial training of women entrepreneurs.
2. Skill training under NSDC, National Apprenticeship Program of government.
3. Viable micro enterprise creation in apparel, leather, footwear etc.
4. Prevent membership in more than 1 SHGs.
5. Audit of expenditure of loans sanctioned.
6. Prevent politicisation of SHG movement staying true to Gramean Bank led model of Bangladesh

All these steps would help sustain the SHGs & balance rural growth & women entrepreneurship!

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. The focus of higher education in India has been on a select few Central or autonomous institutions where as the ones in states remain neglected. Commenting on the statement, highlight the significance of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) in this context. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में उच्च शिक्षा का ध्यान कुछ चुनिंदा केंद्रीय या स्वायत्त संस्थानों पर केंद्रित रहा है, जबकि राज्यों में स्थित संस्थान उपेक्षित रहे हैं। इस कथन पर टिप्पणी करते हुए, इस संदर्भ में राष्ट्रीय उच्चतर शिक्षा अभियान (RUSA) के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Higher education is important to develop the human capital in India.

The focus lately has been unequal.

Disproportionate funds & autonomy to central institutes. → RISE scheme for central institutions.

→ Institute of Eminence tag only for Central/Private Institutes like IITs, Jio etc.

The RUSA in this regard aims to strengthen both Central & State Institutions →

① Upgrade infrastructure viz buildings, libraries etc.

② Provision of scholarships to students.

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(1) Provision of vocational training in State Institutions.

(4) Greater funds to State Institutions like Maharaja Agrasen College in Delhi.

The States which have erstwhile lacked proper funds & infrastructure will now get equal benefits under RUSA. This will democratize higher education in India.

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8. Discuss the role played by PRIs in political empowerment of women. Also, suggest measures to further increase their political participation. (150 words) 10

महिलाओं के राजनीतिक सशक्तिकरण में PRIs (पंचायती राज संस्थाएं) द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका की चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उनकी राजनीतिक भागीदारी को और अधिक बढ़ाने के उपाय सुझाइए।

The Panchayati Raj Institutions established under Article 243 have been transformational for women via provision of 33% reservation.

Role played

- Ministry of Panchayati Raj Study, 2007 indicated that women have gained immense political & social dividends from PRIs.
- They have gained economic empowerment on getting elected (salary) & political empowerment.
- Cases of domestic violence has reduced.
- Attracted more women to PRIs meetings.
- PRIs act as platform for emergence of women political leaders at State & National

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level.
eg. Chhavi Rajawat of Soda village, Rajasthan (Sarpanch)

Measures

- Capacity building of women PRI representatives.
  Recently, MoWCD has started such ~~as~~ a program.
- Greater awareness about reservation
- Curbing the issue of proxy women' where men dictate ~~pol~~ actions to women.
- 33% reservation in Parliament & State legislatures. Currently only 11.3% in Lok Sabha.
- Recent, Ujjwala scheme for LPG give women more time to engage in political affairs..
- All these steps would increase women political voice & participation

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9. What is Strategic Autonomy? Critically examine the elements of such a policy in India's contemporary foreign policy in the context of recent developments. **(150 words)** **10**

रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता क्या है? हाल के घटनाक्रमों के संदर्भ में भारत की समकालीन विदेश नीति में ऐसी नीति के तत्वों का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Strategic autonomy implies that a nation pursues its long term goals without getting sided in a particular military bloc (like NATO) or an alliance to serve its interests & take principled stance on various issues.

Strategic autonomy is just a new phrase for Non-Alignment that India has been pursuing since the Bandung Conference in 1955.

Elements

① Principled stand : India voted against USA & Israel in UNGA resolution regarding USA's acceptance of Jerusalem as Israeli capital. This despite India being major defence partner of both.

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(2) Indo-Pacific strategy: PM Modi at Shangri La said ~~#~~ India's strategy is a positive one & not directed against a alliance or a particular Nation (China).

(3) Non-Militarisation of QUAD & refusal of Australia's accession in Malabar Exercise.

(4) Maintaining Russia & US ties: Opposing CAATSA mandate of USA & going ahead with S-400 purchase.

(5) Defying USA's Paris agreement exit & JCPOA

(6) Despite West pressure, sided with Myanmar on Rohingya issue for its own interests.

(7) ~~Aligning~~ balancing relations with both Global South & Global North simultaneously.

~~Thus,~~ Strategic autonomy by India has had certain failures such as non-committment of support by West on Doklam crisis, tariffs on steel by USA, lack of waiver by USA.

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10. IBSA and BRICS are both examples of India's quest for multialignment, however there are key differences in their orientation. Discuss in the context of the relevance of these groupings for India. **(150 words) 10**

IBSA और BRICS दोनों भारत के बहुपक्षीय संरेखण (मल्टीएलाइन्मेंट) की तलाश के उदाहरण हैं, हालांकि उनके अभिविन्यास में मौलिक अंतर है। भारत के लिए इन समूहों की प्रासंगिकता के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

IBSA excluded China & Russia & BRICS has ~~Brazil~~, India, Russia, China apart from Brazil & S. Africa.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. What are the various modes of Alternate Dispute Redressal (ADR) mechanisms available in India? Identifying the problems being faced by them, provide suggestions needed to increase their effectiveness. **(250 words)** **15**

भारत में उपलब्ध वैकल्पिक विवाद निवारण (ADR) तंत्र के विभिन्न रूप क्या हैं? इनके द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं की पहचान करते हुए, इनकी प्रभावशीलता बढ़ाने के लिए आवश्यक सुझाव प्रदान कीजिए।

Alternative Dispute ~~Resolu~~ Redressal (ADR) is recommended by 2nd ARC & NITI 3 year action agenda for addressing the 3 crore cases backlogs in the Judiciary.

Various Modes of ADR (to bypass the formal SC/HC/Subordinate Courts hierarchy) are →

1. Lok Adalats to deal with issues such as labour disputes, matrimony etc.
2. Family Courts to deal with divorces, alimony issues etc.
3. Gram Nyayalaya Act for cases at the level of villages.
4. Arbitration & Conciliation Act for corporate cases.

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(5) Judicial remedies under 6th schedule areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram.

However, there are various issues being faced by them →

(1) Lack of personnel & dependence on State Government.

(2) Inadequate infrastructure of courtrooms, land etc. (2) Increased pendency due to backlogs

(3) Financial dependence on governments.

(4) Lack of awareness by people.

(5) Limited mandate under acts for cases upto certain monetary threshold, only non-criminal cases etc.

(6) Lack of political will & judicial enthusiasm.

(7) Judicial activism of transfer of cases from ADR courts to themselves using writs of certiorari, prohibition etc.

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Steps

1. Increased financial autonomy.
2. Increase awareness via radio campaigns, ads etc.
3. make it Mandatory for certain class of cases to be filed in ADR courts first.
4. Enhance mandate of these mechanism increasing monetary/legal thresholds.
5. Appropriate infrastructure creation
6. Use of ICT to reduce pendency.

All these steps would help revive ADR methods & decrease burden on higher judiciary to have access to timely justice to all!

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12. While the power to punish for the contempt of court is a much needed tool to protect the administration of justice from being maligned, it is time that it be relooked into. Critically analyse. **(250 words)** **15**

हालांकि न्यायालय की अवमानना के लिए दंडित करने की शक्ति न्याय के प्रशासन को निन्दा से बचाने के लिए बहुत ही आवश्यक उपकरण है, लेकिन समय आ गया है कि इस पर पुनर्विचार किया जाए। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Judicial independence is part of the basic structure of the Constitution.

→ Contempt of court punishments form an important tool to deter malign statements & non-adherence to Court's order.

→ It includes civil as well as criminal punishments for its contempt.

→ It serves the purpose of maintaining the integrity, dignity & honour of the Courts along with preventing obstructions in the delivery of Justice & procedures of the Court.

→ It prevents politically motivated statements, journalistic over-reach that undermines the functioning of the Court.

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However, there are issues involved →

→ Popular sovereignity enshrined in Preamble gets harmed if ordinary citizens are punished & rights of unelected judges gain supremacy!

→ The freedom of speech ~~especially~~ guaranteed in Article 19 gets violated.

→ Press freedom is curtailed.
PM Nehru said he would prefer press without government than a government without free press.

→ Cases of Judicial over-reach barring publishing genuine reports of corruption
eg. Ghaziabad Provident Fund Scam.

→ Independence & Accountability has to go hand in hand. Contempt provisions militates against accountability.

Thus, there is a need to relook into the issue to balance fundamental rights & popular sovereignity along with judicial independence & accountability.

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Steps can be taken such as →

- Judicial Standards & Accountability Bill to have provisions that allows free press & opinions.
- Punishments only in the nature of civil cases & not criminal cases.
- Allowing truthful reports of judicial corruption, genuine issues etc.

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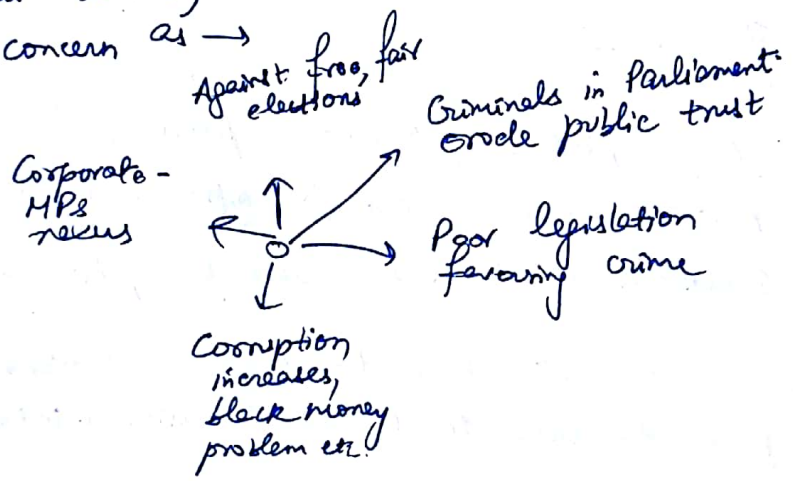
13. Criminalisation of politics remains a key concern for the Indian political system. In this context, analyse the role played by the Supreme Court and Election Commission over the years. Also, in what ways can the media play a positive role? **(250 words)** **15**

राजनीति का अपराधीकरण भारतीय राजनीतिक व्यवस्था के लिए चिंता का एक प्रमुख विषय बना हुआ है। इस संदर्भ में, विगत वर्षों में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय और निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, किस प्रकार मीडिया एक सकारात्मक भूमिका का निर्वाह कर सकता है?

The Association for Democratic Reforms says that 34% of all MP's in current Lok Sabha have criminal charges against them.

In this context, criminalisation remains a key concern as →



Due to the above issues, ~~Sup~~ numerous steps have been taken →.

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Supreme Court (SC)

① ADR vs UoI case, 2002
SC made it mandatory to file affidavits by candidates revealing their criminal cases, convictions etc.

② Lily Thomas Case
Automatic disqualification of sitting MPs in case of conviction for a minimum 2 years.

③ NOTA, 2013 judgement providing for NOTA (None of above) option in all Elections of Legislative assemblies, Lok Sabha.

④ Recent deliberations to cancel membership, poll symbols to candidates with criminal charges.

Election Commission

① Introduction of NOTA, VVPATs etc.

② Transparency in political funding →
- Upper limits on expenditure (70 lakh / 28 lakh for Parliament / SLA)

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- Rs. 20,000 limit for cash donations

③ Strengthening of poll booth management with strong rooms Etc.

④ Disqualification as in RPA, 1951 act
- for conviction in corruption, bribery, social enmity etc.

⑤ EVMs to prevent ~~to~~ bogus votes.

<u>Media can play</u> a huge role →

- Highlight the pending cases / convicts of all parties before elections.
- Mention conflicts of interest on ownership of channel.
- Curb / self regulate the paid news
- Name & shame politicians / Candidates with charges.

Thus, with the effort of all stakeholders, the criminalisation of politics can be minimized.

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14. Highlight, in brief, the mandate of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM). Identify the different challenges that the commission faces and suggest measures to address them. **(250 words)** **15**

संक्षेप में, राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग (NCM) के अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालिए। आयोग द्वारा सामना की जा रही विभिन्न चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए और उनके समाधान करने के उपाय सुझाइए।

The National Commission of Minorities Act, 1993 established NCM for safeguard of minorities interests.

Mandate

1. To look into complaints of injustice against minorities.
2. To monitor the development of the minorities.
3. Monitor safeguards (Constitutional & Statutory) & recommend additional step.
4. Prepare & submit reports
5. Promotional / Legal & Research work.

Challenges faced by NCM

1. It is not a constitutional body unlike NCSC or NCST thus has various handicaps

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(2) No power to investigate into specific complains.

(3) Lacks power to participate in planning for development of minorities.

(3) No power to take up suo moto inquiries.

(4) Lacks power of civil courts (unlike NCSC/ST) to summon officials, have evidences, enforce attendance.

(5) Its reports are not tabled timely.
eg. Last report tabled in Parliament was in 1996.

(6) Only advisory powers.

(7) Dependent on finances & administrative support from government.

(8) Lacks appropriate strength & appointments by government.

Measures to address the challenges →

(1) Giving a constitutional status to have minorities faith in the body.

(2) Giving powers of civil court.

(3) Inclusion in the planning process for minorities in State & Central levels.

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(4) Amendment in NCM Act to have time mentioned for tabling its reports.

(5) Independent staff & powers of appointment.

(6) Requisite funds to be provided.

(7) Make its recommendations binding in certain civil cases.

In the light of rising majoritarianism & vigilantism against muslims, christians etc. using mob violence, there's need to strengthen the NCM upholding the secular credentials mentioned in Article 21, 25-30 & the Preamble!

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15. The recent decision of the government to open up positions at the senior levels in bureaucracy through lateral entry is an important but only small step in the direction of much needed reforms in the higher civil services. Analyse. **(250 words)** **15**

पार्श्व प्रवेश के माध्यम से नौकरशाही में वरिष्ठ स्तर के पदों को खोलने का सरकार का हालिया निर्णय उच्चतर सिविल सेवाओं में अति आवश्यक सुधारों की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण, किन्तु केवल एक छोटा-सा कदम है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The Ministry of Personnel recently invited Lateral Entries for post of Joint Secretaries. However, its not unique to India & not happening for 1st time as Montek Singh, Manmohan Singh (former Finance Secretary & PM) were also lateral entrants.

Lateral Entry is important step because →

1. Infuses specialized talent and as per recommendations of 2nd ARC
2. Generalist IAS officers find difficult to draft policies in increasingly complex matters of trade, security etc.
3. Infuse competition among administrators.
4. New ideas & viewpoints in ministries.
5. Professionalisation of civil services.

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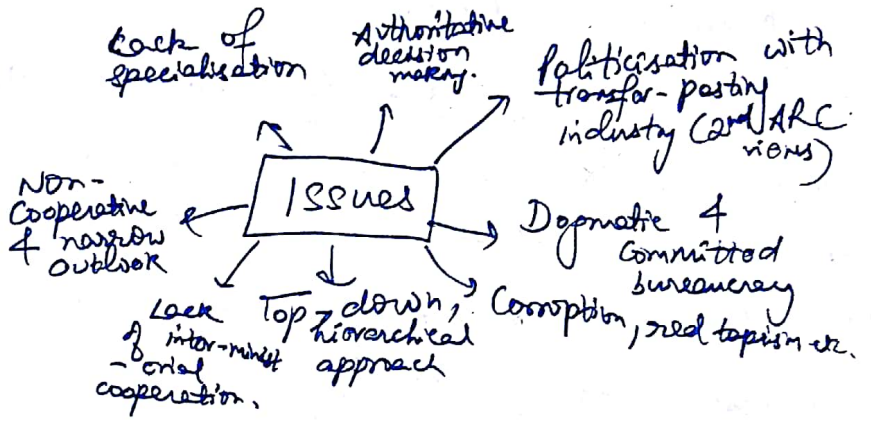
(6) Broader outlook & expertise in fields like nuclear disarmament, agriculture, biotechnology etc.

However, its only a small step as there are other layer issues in the civil services.



In light of these issues, there's need for reforms as suggested by Hota Committe, Santhanam Committee & 2nd ARC like →

(1) Establishment of Civil Services Board for transfer posting.

(2) NCRCW recommends generalising some of specialists & specialising some of generalists

(3) Breaking of silos via Group of Secretaries.

(4) E-Governance to cut red tape eg. PRAGATI initiative

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(5) Tradition of field visits to replace idea of committees & meetings.

(6) Amendment in Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA) to protect honest officials.

The government has taken steps such as 360° performance appraisal, amendments in PCA Act to have prior sanction & collusive bribery punished, E-Governance tools like PRAGATI etc.

Thus, following all the steps, the steel frame of the government can be further strengthened.

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16. Identifying the broad contours of the 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme, explain how it adopts a novel strategy to address backwardness. **(250 words)** **15**

'आकांक्षी जिलों के रूपांतरण' कार्यक्रम की व्यापक रूपरेखा की पहचान करते हुए, व्याख्या कीजिए कि यह पिछड़ेपन से निपटने के लिए किस प्रकार नवीन रणनीति अपनाता है।

The Aspirational Districts Program by NITI Aayog is a unique & transformative approach to targeted development of backward areas.

It comes in the backdrop of less than potential growth < 8%, poverty & hunger issues criticality in few districts, development dragged down by few districts & failure of trickle down approach to development.

The broad contours of the program →

① 115 districts across the country chosen

② Minimum 1 district from each state to have inclusive strategy.

③ Having a targeted approach with

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complimentarity among various schemes of the government.

(4) All the 35 LWE (Left Wing Extremism) affected districts included.

(5) To produce tangible benefits in the field of Education, Health (especially nutrition), poverty, hunger.

(6) Having a Prabhari officer of Centre attached to each district

The Novelty of the program lies in →

(1) Monitoring : Following a 'Delta' or incremental change approach to measure performance rather than the conventional absolute performance benchmarks.

(2) Tying up with private sector for CSR funds, technology, supply chain support, consultation.

(3) Ranking of all districts across various parameters in Education, Health etc.

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(4) Complimentarity of schemes to produce holistic outcomes

(5) Prabhari officers (from Central Government) to coordinate with local level bureaucrats, state secretariat, DMs ~~for~~ → Federalism being co-operative!

Thus, the scheme is ambitious & has a unique approach. It would be prudent to allocate sufficient funds & political will to truly make it a success for New India by 2022.

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17. How did India fare on the Millennium Development Goals related to health? In this regard, identify the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and evaluate India's capacity to meet them. **(250 words)** **15**

स्वास्थ्य से संबंधित सहस्राब्दी विकास लक्ष्यों पर भारत का प्रदर्शन कैसा रहा? इस संबंध में, प्रासंगिक संधारणीय विकास लक्ष्यों की पहचान कीजिए और उन्हें पूरा करने में भारत की क्षमता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

India had an active participation in the planning of Millennium Development Goals & took various implementation activity/policies.

However, India's performance on health front remained dismal →

- 1/4th of Global Hungry population lives in India (Global Hunger Report)
- 50% of women & adolescent girls are anemic
- 62% out of pocket expenditures.
- Crippled primary health care infrastructure.
- Food Security absent despite surplus food production, PDS system, Mid-Day Meal etc.

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The Sustainable Development Goals relevant to the objective of health are →

- SDG 1 – End poverty
  Since poverty & hunger are connected issues, India should create well paid, formal job, undertake targeted approach via MGNREGA DBT transfers for insurance schemes to end poverty & improve health.

- SDG 2 → To End Hunger & ensure food security

- SDG 3 → To improve health with focus on Communicable & Non-Communicable diseases, disease surveillance, AIDS 90:90:90 mission etc.

India has the capacity needed →

- Targeted welfare schemes such as MGNREGA, PDS, Mid-Day Meal scheme.

- ~~Nation~~ Progressive Legislations like NFSA, 2013 (food security).

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- Recent, Ayushman Bharat for National Health Protection via Insurance.
- Aspirational Districts Program in 115 districts
- Leveraging powers of ICT using its IT sector capacity in Tele-Health initiatives.
- Large growth rates greater than 7% give adequate funds to invest in Health.
- National Health Policy, 2017 aims to increase funds from 1.4% to 2.5% gradually.

Thus, leveraging Indias capacity, we can surely meet the SDGs by 2030. This will need additional funds, inter-ministerial cooperation & political will!

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18. What are the different rights recognized under the Forest Rights Act, 2006? Highlight the gaps in the implementation of community forest rights and community forest resource rights granted under the Forest Rights Act. Also, suggest measures to address the current scenario. **(250 words)** **15**

वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 के अंतर्गत मान्यता प्राप्त विभिन्न अधिकार क्या हैं? वन अधिकार अधिनियम के अंतर्गत प्रदान किए गए सामुदायिक वन अधिकारों और सामुदायिक वन संसाधन अधिकारों के कार्यान्वयन में अंतरालों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, वर्तमान परिदृश्य को संबोधित करने के उपाय भी सुझाइए।

The Forest Rights Act, 2006 was a landmark legislative act for the welfare of tribals in the country.

It recognised different rights →

① Community rights over the forest land.

② Prevention of alienation of land.

③ Strengthening the Gram Sabha with powers over minor forest produce to locals.

④ Permission by outsiders to utilize water bodies or for ~~forces~~ mining activities.

⑤ Right of livelihood dependant on forests.

However there are various gaps in its implementation →

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① The forest bureaucracy is less than enthusiastic about FRA & violates its provisions.

② The governments in name of protection to forests & wildlife undertake tribals alienation from their land.

③ Lack of legal awareness among tribals & illiteracy.

④ Role of moneylenders who take away tribals lands.

⑤ Encroachment on forest land by outsiders due to rapid urbanization.

⑥ Mining leases, other developmental activities by government.

Measures to remedy current gaps →

① Strengthen Gram Sabha under PESA Act with additional powers of legislation & enforcement of penalties.

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(2) Increase awareness of rights under FRA, 2006, PESA, 5th & 6th scheduled areas.

(3) Bureaucracy's recruitment to be from local population

(4) Prevent over-bureaucratisation.

(5) Follow the ideals enshrined in Art 46 (Economic & Educational development of ST/SC), Article 39(b) & (c) to have fairer distribution of natural resources.

(6) Local NGO's to help the tribals enforce rights.

All the above steps would help in the development of tribals & rights under FRA!

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19. Progress in India-US ties has been accompanied by equally significant divergences on important issues. Examine in the context of recent developments. **(250 words)** **15**

भारत-अमेरिका संबंधों में प्रगति समान रूप से महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों पर उल्लेखनीय असहमति के साथ हुई है। हाल के घटनाक्रमों के संदर्भ में परीक्षण कीजिए।

From 'estranged democracies' pre-2000 era to engaged partnership, Indo-US ties have come a long way!

There has been fundamental progress on various issues →

① The Indo-US Civil Nuclear deal & US's role in waiver from NSG.

② US's support for membership to Wassenaar, MTCR, NSG etc.

③ Strategic partnership in Indo-Pacific via Malabar exercises, QUAD formation etc.

④ ~~Sp~~ US's cutting of aid & training to Pakistan

⑤ Similar strategic policies in Afghanistan & against China.

⑥ Defence Technology & Trade Initiative (DTTI)

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(7) Recent STA-1 status to India (exemption from sensitive export restrictions)

(8) Sale of Guardian Drones, C-130Js etc.

(9) Supply of US LNG gas.

But, there are glaring divergences on crucial issues too →

(1) Opposite stands in WTO on Doha Development Round → Agreement on Agriculture where US wants India to end food stockholding, MSP/subsidies, ending fishery subsidies etc.

(2) Recent, US trade tariffs against steel & aluminium costing $290 mn to India.

(3) US withdrawal from JCPOA with Iran & sanction threat on India by Trump

(4) CAATSA act to prevent India's acquisition of S-400s from Russia.

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(5) USA withdrawal from Paris agreement on Climate Change despite India's resistance.

(6) Inclusive agreements on COMCASA, BECA (for military cooperation).

(7) India's vision of multipolar world against US interest.

Thus, even though our broader strategic outlook for the world remains aligned in the near future, there are urgent tactical issues to be solved. The 2+2 dialogue mechanism is a good way to deal with such issues!

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20. Despite bonhomie, the structural differences between Indian and Israeli national security situations, their worldviews and absence of explicitly shared enemies limit stronger strategic rapprochement. Critically discuss. (250 words) 15

सौहार्दपूर्ण संबंधों के बावजूद, भारतीय और इज़राइली राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा परिस्थितियों के मध्य संरचनात्मक अंतर, उनके वैश्विक दृष्टिकोण और स्पष्ट रूप से साझा शत्रुओं की अनुपस्थिति मजबूत रणनीतिक मैत्री को सीमित करती है। आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Benjamin Netanhyu on PM Modi's visit to Israel said that these relations between India & Israel are made in heaven & they are just executing it on Earth!

India established formal diplomatic ties with Israel in 1992 after years of estrangement because of Palestine issue.

The recent bonhomie is evident in →

① First ever visit of any Indian PM to Israel in 2017

② De-Hyphenation of Israel & Palestine diplomacy.

③ Agreements in Space, defence, drip irrigation, iCreate centre in Gujarat, $5 mn startup fund etc.

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However there are ~~structural~~ differences →

- Israel & the Arab world is estranged because of Israeli occupation of Palestine in 1967. Whereas, India has deep ties with West Asian Countries.
- ~~Ind~~ Israel views Iran as existential threat whereas India has Chabahar projects, oil dependence on Iran.
- Israel has Saudi Arabia, UAE, etc as enemies.
- Israel is against two state formulae whereas India insists on it for resolution of Palestine issue
- Israel's pronouncement of Jerusalem as its capital is opposed by India in UNGA.
- India's main adversary is Pakistan & China whereas Israel has partnerships with China & limited relations with Pakistan.

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However, there are areas of convergence →

- Defense ties → Israel supplied arms to India even during Kargil War! (1999)
  - There are hi-tech sales of Spyder system, Barak missiles etc.
- Water security & food security via drip irrigation, Centre of Excellence in dryland farming by Israel in India etc.

We should exploit these ~~short too~~ opportunities via gradually aligning strategic interest to boost our partnership!